

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02618 020914Z

11

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03 L-01

EB-03 IO-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /043 W

----- 130668

R 020835Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6495

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2618

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, JO, IS

SUBJ: YARMOUK RIVER DEVELOPMENT

REF: AMMAN 2679

1. WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THOUGHTFUL REFTEL CONTAINING COMPLETE AND LUCID PRESENTATION OF A COMPLICATED SUBJECT. ISRAEL'S SENSITIVITIES RE YARMOUK RIVER WATERS WERE DEMONSTRATED ONCE AGAIN LAST WEEK WHEN A JORDANIAN BULLDOZER WAS PHOTOGRAPHED WHILE WORKING ON THE GHOR CANAL NEAR ADASIYA VILLAGE. JERUSALEM POST OF APRIL 25 CARRIED PHOTOGRAPH AND STATED THAT QUOTE JORDANIANS ARE BELIEVED TO BE DIVERTING THE WATERS OF THE YARMOUK, CONTRARY TO ISRAEL/JORDAN UNDERSTANDING. UNQUOTE. DAVAR OF SAME DATE STATED THAT QUOTE THERE IS CURRENT JORDANIAN PROJECT AIMED AT INCREASED EXPLOITATION OF YARMOUK WATER FOR IRRIGATION OF JORDAN VALLEY THROUG GHOR CANAL. LOCAL RESIDENT FEAR A CUT IN PRESENT QUANTITY OF WATER GOING TO ISRAEL FROM YARMOUK. END QUOTE.

2. RE PARA 6 REFTEL, WE AGREE WITH AMMAN THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO RAISE YARMOUK WATER RIGHTS WITH ISRAELIS BEFORE THIS PROJECT IS MORE FULLY DEFINED. RE WATER SUPPLY, WE WOULD EXPECT THAT IF AND WHEN SUBJECT IS RAISED WITH ISRAELIES, THEY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 02618 020914Z

WILL TRY TO DRIVE THE HARDEST POSSIBLE BARGAIN. WE ARE UNABLE

USEFULLY TO COMMENT ANY FURTHER ON THIS SUBJECT AT THIS TIME.

3. RE PARA 7 REFTTEL, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ISRAELIS WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SEPARATE UNDERSTANDINGS WITH U.S. IN LIEU OF DIRECT DEALINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN. EITHER WAY, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ISRAEL WOULD WISH TO KEEP THIS QUIET. ISRAELI REACTION DIFFICULT TO GAUGE WITH ANY MORE PRECISION, SINCE IT WILL BE DETERMINED BY OVERALL POLITICAL SITUATION IN MID EAST WHEN SUBJECT IS RAISED.

4. ISRAELIS COULD ALSO VERY WELL INTRODUCE FUTHER COMPLICATIONS IN ANY DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON HAS IN RECENT PAST TOLD US THAT THERE WAS NO REASON WHY ISRAEL AND JORDAN COULD NOT FIND WAYS TO COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER EVEN IF WEST BANK PROBLEM REMAINS UNRESOLVED. HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE USEFUL, COOPERATIVE PROJECTS INVOLVING BOTH COUNTRIES "NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE WEST BANK" WHICH SHOULD BE PURSUED, INCLUDING "OPEN BRIDGES POLICY" BETWEEN AQABA AND EILAT. ISRAELIS, THEREFORE, MIGHT INTRODUCE "LINKAGE BETWEEN DIFFERENT AREAS."  
VELIOTES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, RIVERS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, WATER BOUNDARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TELAV02618  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750154-0544  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750584/aaaaczkk.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 75 AMMAN 2679  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** YARMOUK RIVER DEVELOPMENT  
**TAGS:** EAID, JO, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006